GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2291
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EXPLOITATION OF WATER RESOURCES
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a scheme to check unbridled exploitation of water resources including ground water to prevent water crisis in the future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes any scheme to use new technologies for making better use of water resources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)to(d) The National Water Policy states that `water resources development and management will have to be planned for a hydrological unit such as drainage basin as a whole or for a sub-basin, multi-sectorally, taking into account surface and ground water for sustainable use incorporating quantity and quality aspects as well as environmental considerations`. The National Water Policy also lays emphasis on conservation of the water resources. It states that the resources should be conserved and the availability augmented. The projects for water resources development and management are formulated and implemented by the respective State Governments. During the course of appraisal of the projects, the issues related to sustainability of the resource are duly considered.

In view of over-exploitation of ground water in some areas, the Ministry of Water Resources has:

(i) Taken initiatives for conservation and regulation of the ground water resources in addition to the propagation of rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

(ii) A model bill to regulate and control the development and management of ground water has been drafted and circulated to all the State Governments and Union Territories to facilitate enactment of the necessary legislation.

(iii) An Advisory Council on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water has been constituted for popularizing the concept of artificial recharge among stakeholders.

(iv) Taken measures for Research and Development in respect of application of improved techniques and technologies to ensure proper management of water resources.

(v) 5000 `Farmers Participatory Action Research Programmes` have been sanctioned to promote more crop and income per drop of water.